

Letter:

Metro's District NoHo Joint Development Project at the North Hollywood B Line / G Line station has the potential to transform the San Fernando Valley for the better. Unfortunately, the current design for this nearly 1500 unit development sets aside just 25% of the residential units for affordable housing - 366 in total. This ignores the stated goals and commitments of Metro, the City, and the County to address the severe crisis of housing affordability for lower income working people and transit riders in our community. We join with the North Hollywood Neighborhood Council in calling on Metro to do better and reimagine District NoHo to prioritize affordable housing in this development.

District NoHo will be built on 16 acres of publicly owned land at one of the city's busiest Metro hubs. But under the current residential plan, 75% of the units will be leased at market rates, unaffordable to all but the most affluent residents of the community. In addition, most of the affordable units are segregated into separate buildings at the edges of the development. This is an unacceptable use of our public land in a city with a severe shortage of affordable rental units that has all but priced out the working class.

The RFP for this project called for 35% of the residences to be set aside for affordable housing. That would mean 518 new affordable homes. The Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) urges you as elected officials and Metro Directors to challenge Metro to deliver on the 35% / 518 (OR EVEN MORE) affordable units commitment in order to create the mixed-income housing the overall regional North Hollywood area needs to maintain a thriving, diverse, and integrated community.

Sincerely,

Scott Mandell, President
Studio City Neighborhood Council